## Our Condolences to the Family of Hassan Kekia

I came to know recently about the ultimate departure of my friend Hassan Kekia. Kekia was a remarkable entrepreneur in Addis Ababa and Asmara. As a formidable nationalist, he joined the EPLF in the early eighties. In Khartoum, he served his organization as advisor, facilitator, and lobbyist. After independence, he criticized the Asmara regime openly. He was often thrown to prison; but was never intimidated by the Eritrean regime. Hassan was known for his generosity; the needy and the weak were never turned away from his home or his office. In mid-fifties, a large number of students from the environs of Massawa, called "Kekia Boys", joined us in Teferi Mekonen School: our friendship goes back that long. For some reason, the leader Osman Saleh Sabbe, studied at the Medhane-Alem School.

In my name, and on behalf of my comrades, I Pray that he be received well in his new home.

Herui Tedla Bairu, 2017-01-19/Stockholm